

Remarks

Claims 1-24 are being presented for reconsideration, with claims 1 and 13 being the independent claims. Claims 13, 14, 20, and 24 are sought to be amended.

Paragraphs 0044, 0047, 0053, and 0055 have been amended as shown above to include element numbers 523, 524, 722, 724, 725, 728, 922, 924, 928, as supported, e.g., in original Figures 5, 7, and 9.

No new matter has been introduced by any amendments.

The Examiner is thanked for indicating claims 1-12 were allowable and that claims 14, 20, and 24 contained allowable subject matter.

Based on the above amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Objection to the Figures

The Examiner objected to the Figures under 37 C.F.R. §1.84(p)(5) because element numbers 523, 524, 722, 724, 725, 728, 922, 924, 928 shown in Figures 5, 7, and 9, respectively, were not found in the specification. Paragraphs 0044, 0047, 0053, and 0055 have been amended, as shown above, to respectively include these element numbers. No new matter has been entered by these amendments. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the objection.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 13, 15-19, 21, and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,464,909 to Kazmer et al. ("Kazmer"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 13 recites features that distinguish over the applied reference. For example, claim 13 recites "wherein said first actuated valve pin and said second actuated valve pin are independently movable." In contrast, the elements asserted by the Examiner on page 3 of the Office Action, elements 200 and 205 in Figures 15 and 30 of

Kazmer, are moveable only together as a single piece. Therefore, Kazmer does not anticipate claim 13. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejection of claim 13 and find claim 13 allowable over the applied reference. Also, at least based on their dependency to claim 13, claims 15-19, 21, and 23 should be found allowable over the applied reference.

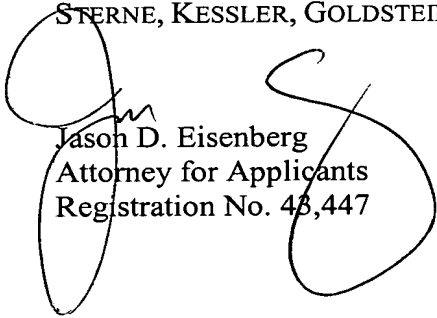
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of objection and rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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